

Message Text

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73

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15

RSR-01 /090 W

----- 064363

R 261819Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8834

INFO AMCONSUL RECIFE

AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

AMCONSUL BELEM

AMCONSUL PORTO ALEGRE

AMCONSUL SALVADOR

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BRASILIA 4702

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV PINT BR

SUBJ: NEW SENATE AND ARENA LEADERSHIP

1. ACCORDING TO BRAZILIAN PRESS AND A NUMBER OF LOCAL OBSERVERS, PRESIDENT MEDICI HAS DECIDED THAT SENATOR PETRONIO PORTELLA (PIAUI) WILL SUCCEED FILINTO MULLER AS NATIONAL PRESIDENT OF ARENA AND SENATOR PAULO TORRES (RIO DE JANEIRO) WILL REPLACE MULLER AS SENATE PRESIDENT. BOTH MEN ARE MOVING UP FROM THE FIRST VICE PRESIDENT POSITION. PORTELLA IS A FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE. ALTHOUGH THERE IS LITTLE DOUBT THAT PORTELLA WILL BE TAPPED FOR THE PARTY JOB, THERE IS SOME SPECULATION SURROUNDING OTHER NAMES FOR THE SENATE PRESIDENCY. THE SENATORS MENTIONED, DANIEL KRIEGER, NEY BRAGA, VIRGILO TAVORA, ARE BETTER KNOWN AND MORE CONTROVERSIAL THAN TORRES.

2. PORTELLA, WHO WILL RETAIN HIS POSITION AS THE ARENA
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LEADER IN THE SENATE, IS EXPECTED TO BE ELECTED BY THE

NATIONAL DIRECTORATE OF ARENA ON AUGUST 2 AND TORRES IS SCHEDULED TO BE ELECTED ON AUGUST 6. ACCIOLY FILHO (PARANA) IS EXPECTED TO BECOME THE FIRST VICE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE.

3. IF "ELECTIONS" PROCEED AS SCHEDULED, IT WILL BE INDICATION THAT DECISION MADE TO AVOID CONTROVERSY IN SELECTING SOME OF THE STRONGER CONTENDERS FOR THESE POSITIONS. PORTELLA IS CONSIDERED SOLID ALTHOUGH NOT PARTICULARLY POWERFUL OR POPULAR. TORRES IS CONSIDERED NONENTITY. CLEVELAND

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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